



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

July 29, 2011

TO: Internal File

THRU: Steve Christensen, Team lead 

FROM: Joe Helfrich, Biology, Land use, Cultural Resources 

RE: Permit Boundary Amendment, Sunnyside Cogeneration associates, Sunnyside Co-gen Mine, C/007/0035, WG3880

SUMMARY:

On May 2, 2011 the Division received an amendment to adjust the permit area along the south and west boundaries, (the old coarse refuse road). On June 30th the Division notified SRS of deficiencies in the application. On July 27th the Division received a response to the Division's deficiencies. This memo will include a review of that information as it pertains to the biology, land use and cultural resource sections of the regulations

SUMMARY OF DEFICIENCIES

R645-301-341, Page 900-17 paragraph one has been revised to include the Division in determining if it is appropriate to use fertilizer in the reclamation of the spoil piles. There are no remaining deficiencies. [JCH]

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

GENERAL CONTENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: Pub. L 95-87 Sections 507(b), 508(a), and 516(b); 30 CFR 783., et. al.

HISTORIC AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.12; R645-301-411.

Analysis:

The number assigned to the one of the two eligible sites on the National register has been revised. The new number for the coke ovens is 42Cb243 as noted on pages 400-3 and 4 of the MRP.

Findings:

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

VEGETATION RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.19; R645-301-320.

Analysis:

Chapter three pages 1 through 5, 12, 17, and 18 have been revised to reflect the current status of mining operations at the co-generation facility. The permit area has been reduced from 320 to 250 acres. The total disturbed area changed from 57 to 80 % of the permit area. Text has been added to page 17 to note the phase three bond release of the old coarse refuse road. Additional text changes on page 17 and 18 include the consultation with the DOGM biologist to modify the current seed mix included in chapter 10.

Findings:

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 784.21; R645-301-322.

Analysis:

Drawing 3-2 has been revised to show the current permit boundary.

Findings

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

LAND-USE & AIR QUALITY RESOURCE INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR 783.22; R645-301-411.

Analysis:

Chapter four pages 1 through 9 have been revised to reflect the current status of mining operations at the co-generation facility. The permit area has been reduced from 320 to 250 acres. The total disturbed area changed from 57 to 80 % of the permit area.

Findings:

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

MAPS

Cultural Resource Maps

Figure 4-2 illustrating the archaeological sites, 42Cb539, 42Cb540, 42Cb538 and 42Cb243, has been revised to reflect the current permit area. Figure 4-3 noting the polygons for the sensitivity rankings has been revised to reflect the current status of the disturbed and permit areas.

Vegetation Reference Area Maps

Figure 3-3 illustrating the vegetative communities and reference areas has been revised to reflect the current status of the disturbed and permit areas.

Findings:

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

TECHNICAL MEMO

RECLAMATION PLAN

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Regulatory Reference: PL 95-87 Sec. 515 and 516; 30 CFR Sec. 784.13, 784.14, 784.15, 784.16, 784.17, 784.18, 784.19, 784.20, 784.21, 784.22, 784.23, 784.24, 784.25, 784.26; R645-301-231, -301-233, -301-322, -301-323, -301-331, -301-333, -301-341, -301-342, -301-411, -301-412, -301-422, -301-512, -301-513, -301-521, -301-522, -301-525, -301-526, -301-527, -301-528, -301-529, -301-531, -301-533, -301-534, -301-536, -301-537, -301-542, -301-623, -301-624, -301-625, -301-626, -301-631, -301-632, -301-731, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-746, -301-764, -301-830.

Analysis:

Chapter nine pages 1 through 8, 12, 16, 17 and 23 have been revised to reflect the current status of mining operations at the co-generation facility. The permit area has been reduced from 320 to 250 acres. The total disturbed area changed from 57 to 80 % of the permit area. The text on page 900-2 has been revised to reflect the phase three bond release of the old coarse refuse road. The text in paragraph one on page 900-17 indicates that "Fertilizer if needed will be spread just prior to seeding". The applicant has revised the text on page 900-17 to include the following language: "Fertilizer as determined by SCA in consultation with DOGM will be spread just prior to seeding."

Findings:

The information in the application is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

POSTMINING LAND USES

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.15, 784.200, 785.16, 817.133; R645-301-412, -301-413, -301-414, -302-270, -302-271, -302-272, -302-273, -302-274, -302-275.

Analysis:

Text has been added to page 400-9 noting that there are no alternate post mining land uses planned for the reclamation of the disturbed area.

Findings:

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

MAPS, PLANS, AND CROSS SECTIONS OF RECLAMATION OPERATIONS

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.23; R645-301-323, -301-512, -301-521, -301-542, -301-632, -301-731.

Analysis:

Affected Area Boundary Maps

Drawing 3-1 has been revised to reflect the current pre law post law and future disturbances.

Reclamation Treatments Maps

Drawing 8-5 illustrating the application of the Pinyon-Juniper/Sagebrush Grass and Atriplex Grass mixtures has been revised to reflect the current permit area.

Drawing 10-7 illustrating the final reclamation seeding plan has been revised to reflect the current permit area.

Findings:

The information is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

There the application is recommended for approval.